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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/933,508	08/20/2001	Yingjian Chen	RR-1710	5952

24501 7590 07/05/2005

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EXAMINER

TUPPER, ROBERT S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2652

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2652

1. The Board has rendered a decision affirming the rejection of claims 1, 4, 7-9, 12, 13, 15-19, and 21-24, and reversing the rejections as to claims 5, 6, and 14. In addition, the application has been remanded to the Examiner for further consideration of a rejection of claims 5, 6, and 14. Prosecution is not reopened as to the affirmed rejections. Prosecution is reopened only as to the rejection of claims 5, 6, and 14 set forth below.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 5, 6, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SHUKH et al (6,504,675) in view of KHIZROEV et al (6,513,228).

Note figures 1, 2, and 6. SHUKH et al shows a perpendicular recording head substantially as claimed. SHUKH et al differs in not showing: (A) an MR read head adjacent one of the pole tips (re claim 5), and (B) the two pole layers connected by a separate third magnetically permeable layer (SHUKH et al utilizes an extension off the top of one of the poles as the connection to the other pole).

Note figure 3. KHIZROEV et al shows: (A) a thin film perpendicular head with an MR read sensor (106) located adjacent one of the pole tips, and (B) a separate yoke layer (150) connecting the poles of the write head.

Concerning (A), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an MR read sensor located adjacent one of the poles in SHUKH et al as shown by KHIZROEV et al. The motivation is as follows: this is a well known and commonly used combination.

Concerning (B), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a separate yoke layer to connect the poles in SHUKH et al as shown by KHIZROEV et al. The motivation is as follows: a magnetic write head requires a complete magnetic circuit between the pole pieces remote from the recording gap. The connections utilized by KHIZROEV et al (a separate third magnetic layer) and SHUKH et al (an extension off one of the poles) are art recognized equivalents that operate in the same manner and produce the same results without any unexpected results. One of ordinary skill in the art would utilize the separate connection of KHIZROEV et al in the head of SHUKH et al.

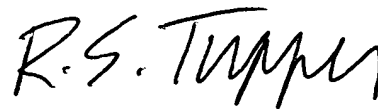
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY TO THIS ACTION IS SET
TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS ACTION.

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37
CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than
SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert S. Tupper whose telephone number is 571-272-7581. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 6:30 AM - 4:00 PM (first Fri off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Robert S Tupper
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2652

rst